

amended to change "pedal" to --control pedal--. Claim 9 and 13 have been amended to delete the element wherein the cylindrical opening and the slot are colinear, since the cylindrical opening and slot are not colinear. New claims 14-35 have been added to broaden the scope of protection afforded by the '587 patent.

The specification and abstract have been amended to correct idiomatic errors and to include missing element numerals. A submission of proposed drawing amendment is being filed herewith for approval by the Examiner. Specifically, it is proposed that element numeral --14-- be added to Figs. 1, 3 and 4; that element numeral --50-- be added to Fig. 4; and that the element numerals --22-- and --16-- be added and "13" be removed from Fig. 5. In addition, it is proposed that the cross section line 6-6 be removed from Fig. 5 and that Fig. 6 be modified to clarify that it is a right side elevational view. These requested drawing changes are made to conform to the reference numerals used throughout the specification. Approval is respectfully requested. Formal drawings incorporating the proposed changes will be submitted upon approval of the proposed drawing changes and receipt of a Notice of Allowance.

Applicant is not seeking reissue of the '587 patent based upon the corrections to the specification, abstract and drawings. It is permissible to make such corrections in a reissue application. See M.P.E.P. § 1402.

No new matter is added to the application by this Preliminary Amendment.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for examination and such examination is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Vito

March 15, 2001
(Date)

By:

Martin G. Belisario

MARTIN G. BELISARIO

Registration No. 32,886

AKIN, GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER & FELD, LLP

One Commerce Square

2005 Market Street; Suite 2200

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Telephone: (215) 965-1200

Facsimile: (215) 965-1210

Direct Dial: (215) 965-1303

E-Mail: mbelisario@akingump.com

Sheryl

MGB/WRR/moh/cbf

FILED: 2001 MAR 15 PM 4:00

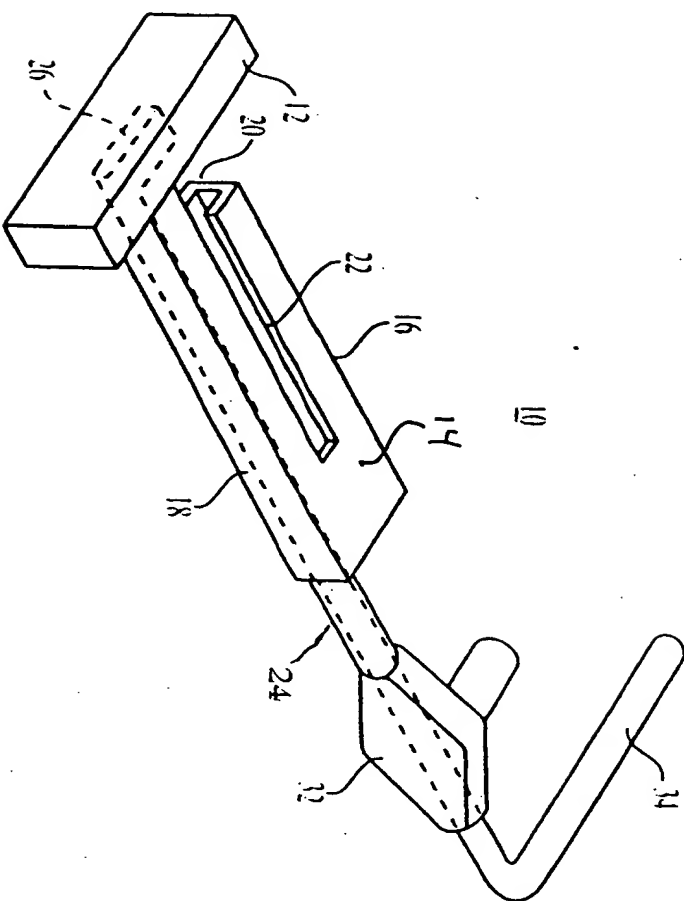


FIG. 1

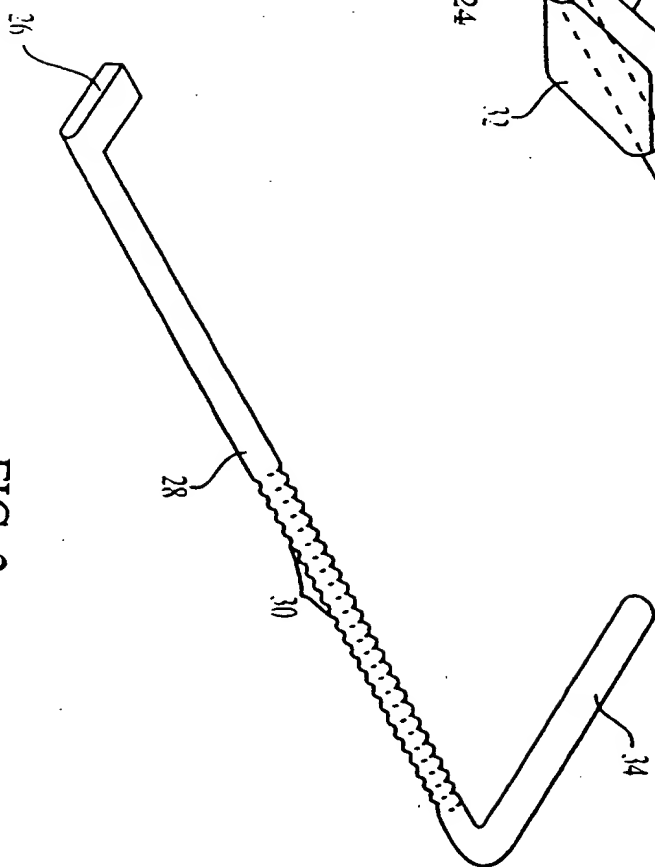


FIG. 2

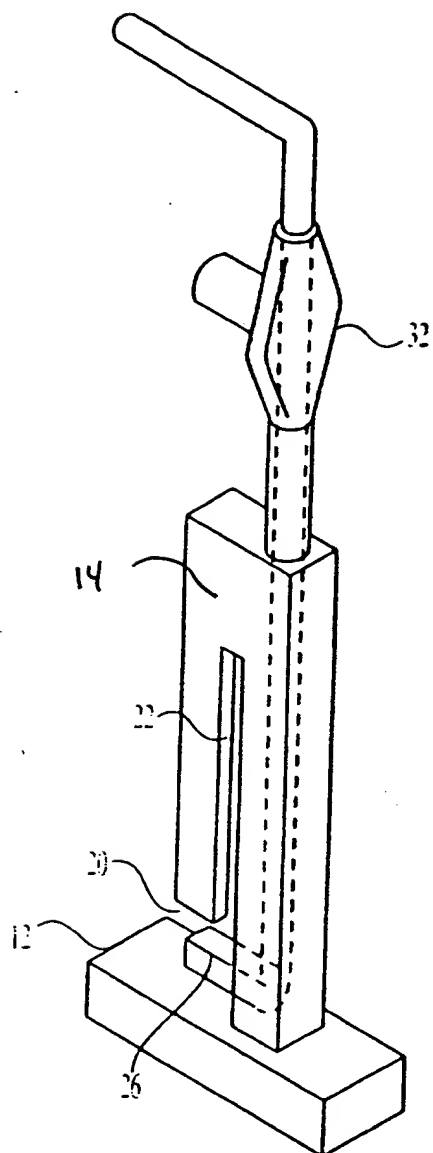


FIG. 3

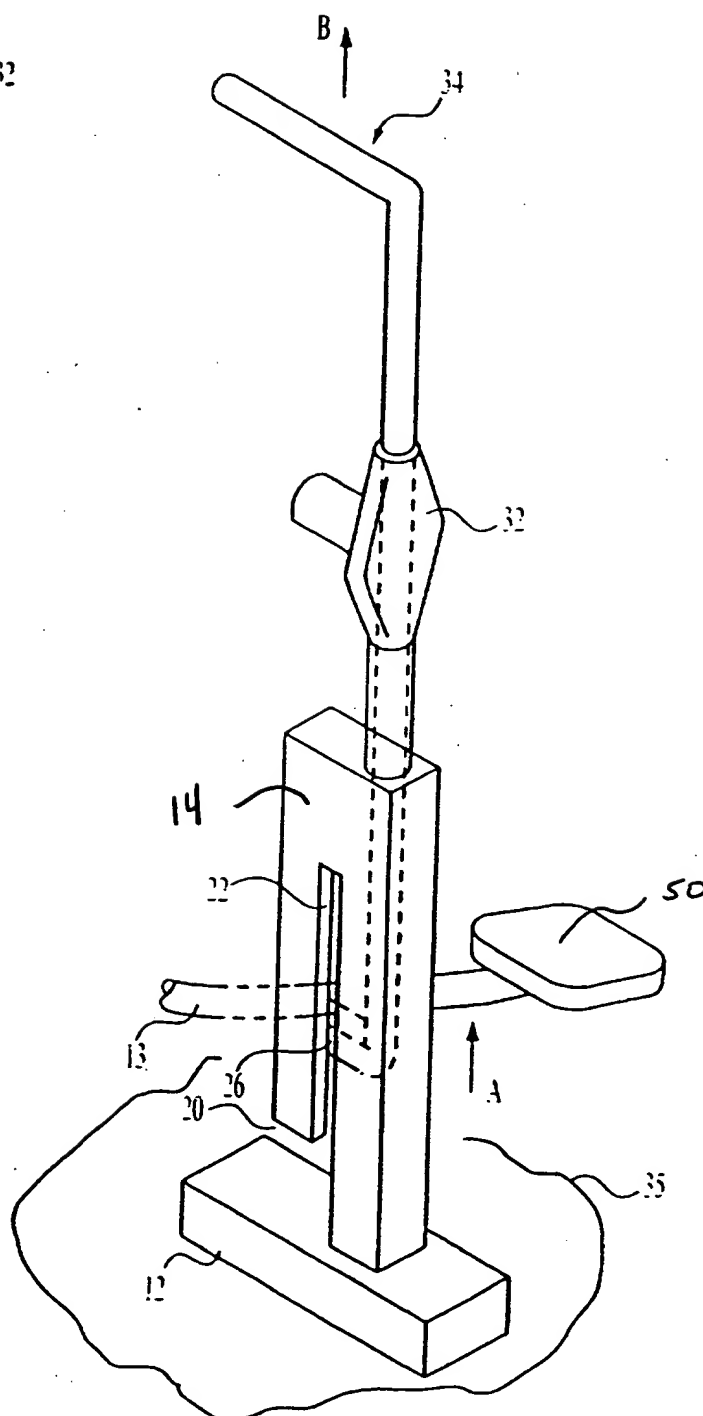


FIG. 4

